



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FABENS BORDER PATROL AGENTS SEIZE 1304 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA

Four Separate Seizures in the El Paso Sector Net Over 2100 Pounds of Marijuana

Border Patrol agents from the El Paso sector made four separate seizures of marijuana in the last 24 hours. The largest occurred at approximately 7:15 this morning as agents from the Fabens Station seized 1304 pounds.

The events unfolded as agents were alerted to an area approximately 6 miles west of the Fabens Port of Entry and spotted two individuals hiding in an irrigation canal. A few minutes later, a silver 1990 Chevrolet pick-up truck approached the two individuals and parked behind an orchard. As agents arrived at the same location as the truck, they found the truck abandoned and saw approximately 23 individuals running south into Mexico. In plain view in the bed and cab of the pick-up truck were numerous bundles of marijuana. The total weight of the contraband was 1304 pounds and had a value of \$1,043,760.

Three other major seizures occurred in the following areas:

- ◆ Alamogordo Border Patrol Agents seized 262 pounds of marijuana in the walls, doors and rear gas tank of a early model Ford Econoline van on US Highway 54. The seizure occurred early yesterday morning. The total value of the seizure was over \$210,000.
- ◆ Lordsburg Agents made a seizure of 242 pounds of marijuana south of Hachita, New Mexico. The contraband, which was hidden in an arroyo, had a value of \$193,744.
- ◆ A seizure of 307 pounds of marijuana by agents from the Fort Hancock Station was made late yesterday afternoon. Agents were alerted to a red Mitsubishi Eclipse traveling north bound from the river area towards Texas Highway 20 approximately, 4 miles west of the Fort Hancock Port of Entry. A canine inspection of the vehicle revealed several cellophane wrapped bundles of marijuana. The 307 pounds had a value of \$245,520.

The accumulated total of all seizures was 2,115 pounds of marijuana with a value of approximately \$1.7 million.

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